27 August 2002
English
Original: Arabic

Committee on Conferences
Substantive session of 2002

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Ms. Radhia **Achouri** (Tunisia)

I. Calendar of conferences and meetings

A. Matters related to and intersessional departures from the approved calendar for 2002

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 56/242, approved the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2002-2003, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences and amended by subsequent decisions taken by the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session. The calendar was issued as document A/AC.172/2002/2.

2. At its 373rd meeting, on 26 August 1994, the Committee had decided that requests for intersessional departures submitted to the Committee should in future be reviewed by the Bureau, in consultation with the Secretariat, for subsequent action.

3. At its 379th meeting, on 23 March 1995, the Committee had agreed that proposed changes to the calendar that did not have programme budget implications could be dealt with by the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee.

4. At its substantive session of 1995, the Committee had decided that requests for intersessional departures submitted to the Committee that involved a change of venue should be referred to the members for approval. Departures that involved other types of changes, as the Committee had decided at its substantive session of 1994, should be reviewed by the Bureau, in consultation with the Secretariat, for subsequent action.

5. The requests submitted in 2002 for changes of venue or additional sessions or meetings, and the action taken by the Committee are set out below.

02-57921 (E)

Organ	*Request*	*Action taken*
Investments Committee	To meet in Accra on 18 and 19 February 2002 and in conjunction with the meeting of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board in Rome on 9 and 10 July 2002. The Investments Committee usually meets four or five times a year for one day. One of the meetings is held in conjunction with the meetings of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board. The meetings of the Committee are normally held in New York except for the meeting with the Pension Board, which is held wherever the Board convenes, as indicated in A/49/212, paragraph 70. It has been the tradition for a member of the Investments Committee to host one of its meetings. All expenses are always met by the host at no cost to the United Nations and, as confirmed by the Secretary of the Committee, all expenses incurred in connection with the Investments Committee meetings on 18 and 19 February in Accra are covered by the host country in accordance with past practice, as indicated in A/49/212, paragraph 71.	Request approved
Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development	To hold an additional meeting of the Preparatory Committee, subject to the availability of services, on an exceptional basis, in order to adopt the outcome document "Monterrey Consensus" and transmit it to the Conference, and to approve the report of the fourth session of the Preparatory Committee. The meeting was held on 15 February 2002.	Request approved
United Nations Forum on Forests	To convene its second session from 4 to 15 March in New York rather than San Jose, Costa Rica. In its resolution 2001/292, the Economic and Social Council welcomed the offer of the Government of Costa Rica to host this meeting. The Government of Costa Rica, however, informed the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs on 28 January 2002 that, owing to unforeseen circumstances, it was withdrawing its offer to host the Forum. The Bureau of the Forum, at its meeting on 28 January 2002, decided to hold the session at Forum headquarters in New York from 4 to 15 March 2002.	Request approved
Commission on the Status of Women	To hold one additional meeting of the Commission on 25 March 2002 to take action on two more proposals and to finish its work.	Request approved
Fifth Committee	To maintain the four-week duration of its second resumed session, as originally approved in the draft Calendar of Conferences and Meetings, owing to the programme of work of the Committee. Since it was not possible to schedule the four weeks in succession because of the General Assembly special session on children (8-10 May 2002), Conference Services and the Fifth Committee secretariat agreed on the dates of 29 April to 2 May and 13 to 31 May 2002.	Requests approved

Organ	*Request*	*Action taken*
	To hold one additional informal meeting of the Committee on 6 June 2002 and a formal meeting on 17 June 2002 to take action on the draft proposals before it and to conclude its work for the session.	
Group of Governmental Experts on Tracing Small Arms and Light Weapons	To convene its first session in Geneva from 1 to 5 July 2002 rather than in New York from 20 to 24 May 2002. Since some members of the Group would participate in the Open-ended Group of Governmental Experts of States Parties to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, scheduled to meet in Geneva from 20 to 24 May 2002, it would be impossible for them also to attend the meeting in New York. Moreover, moving the meeting from New York to Geneva would reduce the cost of holding the meeting owing to the lower cost of travel for some of the experts. Conference Services in Geneva confirmed that it could accommodate the meeting on the dates requested in July.	Request approved
Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters	To convene the thirty-ninth session of the Board from 17 to 19 July 2002 in Geneva rather than in New York in order to give members the opportunity to confer with participants in the Conference on Disarmament. Moreover, since the Board also serves as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the Geneva venue permits Board members to be in close contact with the staff of the Institute.	Request approved